This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

identifying, for a packet to be transmitted over a wireless link, a type of service from among at least a first and second type of service wherein the first type of service comprises a minimize-delay service and the second type of service comprises a maximize-reliability service;

determining an acknowledgement requirement corresponding to the type of service further comprising: a) if the packet is associated with the first type of service, not requiring acknowledgement of the slot by the receiving device; and b) if the packet is associated with a second type of service, requiring acknowledgement of the slot by the receiving device;

sending a slot comprising at least a portion of the packet from a sending device to a receiving device further comprising: a) if the packet is associated with the first type of service, encoding the at least a portion of the packet using an error correcting code of a first rate; and b) if the packet is associated with the second type of service, encoding the at least a portion of the packet using an error correcting code of a second time;

performing, by the receiving device, the acknowledgement requirement corresponding to the type of service, based on an error status of the slot further comprising a) not acknowledging reception of the slot associated with the minimize-delay service; and b) acknowledging reception of slots associated with the maximize-reliability service, if the slot is received without error.

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2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining an acknowledgment requirement comprises:

if the packet is associated with a first type of service, not requiring acknowledgment of the slot by the receiving device; and

if the packet is associated with a second type of service, requiring acknowledgment of the slot by the receiving device if the slot is received without error.

3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein the first type of service comprises a minimize-delay service and the second type of service comprises a maximize-reliability service.

4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 3, wherein the step of performing the acknowledgment requirement comprises the receiving device:

not acknowledging reception of slots associated with minimize-delay service; and

acknowledging reception of slots associated with maximize-reliability service, if the slots are received without error.

5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein the first type of service comprises a minimize-delay service and the second type of service comprises a default service.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 1, wherein the step of performing the acknowledgement requirement comprises the receiving device:

not acknowledging reception of slots associated with minimize-delay service; and

acknowledging reception of slots associated with default service, if the slots are received without error.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining an acknowledgement requirement is accomplished by the sending device, the method further comprising sending, from the sending device to the receiving device, indicia of the acknowledgement requirement.

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8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining an acknowledgement requirement is accomplished by the receiving device.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 comprising, before sending the slot:

if the packet is associated with a first type of service, encoding the at least a portion of the packet using a error correcting code of a first rate; and

if the packet is associated with a second type of service, encoding the at least a portion of the packet using a error correcting code of a second rate.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~1, wherein the error correcting code of the first rate comprises a rate ¾ convolutional code and the error correcting code of the second rate comprises a rate ½ convolutional code.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sending device comprises a repeater and the receiving device comprises a communication unit.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sending device comprises a communication unit and the receiving device comprises a repeater.

13. (Withdrawn) A method comprising the steps of:

receiving, by a repeater, a first block of data from a first device;

determining by the repeater if the first block of data requires acknowledgement;

if the repeater determines that the first block of data requires acknowledgement,

forming by the repeater a time slot including:

indicia of acknowledgment of the first block of data; and

a second block of data targeted for a second device; and transmitting by the repeater the time slot.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein the first block of data comprises a portion of a packet and the indicia of acknowledgement comprises an identifier of the packet and an identifier of the portion of the packet.

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15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein the time slot further comprises an identification of the first device and an identification of the second device.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

receiving, by the repeater, a third block of data from a third device;

determining by the repeater if the third block of data requires acknowledgement;

if the repeater determines that the first and third block of data requires acknowledgement, including indicia of acknowledgement of the first and third block of data, and the second block of data, in the time slot.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the first block of data comprises a portion of a first packet, the third block of data comprising a portion of a second packet, the indicia of acknowledgement of the first block of data comprising an identifier of the first packet and an identifier of the portion of the first packet and the indicia of acknowledgement of the third block of data comprising an identifier of the second packet and an identifier of the portion of the second packet.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the first time slot further comprises an identification of the first device, an identification of the second device and an identification of the third device.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the step of receiving, by the repeater, a first block of data comprises the step of receiving, by the repeater on the uplink of a wireless link, a first block of data from a first device; and the step of receiving, by the repeater, a third block of data comprises the step of receiving, by the repeater on the uplink of a wireless link, a third block of data from a third device.

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20. (Withdrawn) A method comprising the steps of:

receiving, by a communication unit, N blocks of data;

determining by the communication unit a subset of the N blocks of data that must be acknowledged;

allocating, by a repeater in communication with the communication unit, an acknowledgement time slot for use by the communication unit;

sending by the communication unit an acknowledgement structure within the allocated acknowledgement time slot.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein the acknowledgement structure includes indicia of acknowledgment for the subset of the N blocks of data.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein each of the N blocks of data is a portion of a packet, the acknowledgement structure including identifications of the portion of a packet carried in each of the subset of the N blocks of data.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein the step of receiving N blocks of data comprises receiving the N blocks of data within a plurality of time slots.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein the step of determining comprises:

identifying the subset of the N blocks of data that require acknowledgement based at least in part on an error status of each of the N blocks of data.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 further comprising:

receiving, by the repeater, a block of data from the communication unit;

determining by the repeater whether the block of data must be acknowledged; and

if the repeater determines that the block of data requires acknowledgement,

    forming by the repeater a time slot including:

        indicia of acknowledgement of the block of data; and

        a second block of data targeted for a second communication unit;

        and transmitting by the repeater the time slot.

26. (Withdrawn) A method comprising the steps of:

determining by a sending device that a first communication unit should be assigned a future time slot;

    forming by the sending device a time slot comprising an identification of the first communication unit and data destined for a second communication unit; and

    sending by the sending device the time slot.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26 wherein the time slot further comprises a slot type of the future time slot for which it has been determined that the first communication unit is to be assigned.

28. (Withdrawn) A slot comprising:

a source identification number field for identifying a sending device;

a destination identification number field for identifying a receiving device;

a block number field for identifying the segment of a first packet carried in the slot;

a packet number field for identifying the first packet;

a total number of blocks field for specifying how many segments the first packet has been divided into;

a last block length field for specifying the size of the last segment of the first packet; and

    one or more blocks of data, each block of data containing a segment of the first packet.

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29. (Withdrawn) The slot of claim 28 further comprising:

one or more blocks of data, each block of data containing a segment of a second

packet.

30. (Withdrawn) The time slot of claim 28 further comprising:

a next slot communication unit identification number field identifying a device that

can transmit in a future slot; and

a slot type field identifying the type of the future slot.

31. (Withdrawn) The time slot of claim 28 further comprising:

an acknowledgement identification number field identifying a device for which an

acknowledgment message is destined;

an acknowledgment block number field identifying a segment of a second packet

that is being acknowledged in the acknowledgment message;

an acknowledgment packet number field identifying the second packet;

an acknowledgment bit field specifying whether the acknowledgment identification

number field, acknowledgment block number field and acknowledgment packet number

field contain valid data; and

a confirmation bit field specifying whether a device receiving one of the one or

more data blocks should acknowledge error-free reception of the one of the one or more

data blocks.

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32. (Withdrawn) A method comprising the steps of:

receiving by a sending device a first packet having a first priority level;

splitting by the sending device the first packet into segments that can be transported within data blocks of a time slot;

commencing transmision by the sending device of a time slot comprising a plurality of data blocks, at least one of the data blocks containing a segment of the first packet;

receiving by the sending device after commencement of transmission of the time slot a second packet having a second priority level, the second priority level higher than the first priority level;

splitting by the sending device the second packet into segments that can be transported within data blocks of a time slot;

continuing transmission of the time slot with one or more data blocks containing a segment of the second packet.

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